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Resolution 1962-05-26 Agricultural Drainage

Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

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RESOLUTION NO. 1

NEED FOR LOW FLOW STORAGE IN RESERVOIRS

Whereas, the water quality of our streams and rivers is of increasing concern because of their many and varied uses, including industrial and domestic water supply, power, and irrigation purposes, navigation, fish and wildlife, and general recreation, and,

Whereas, notable efforts are being made by municipal and industrial interests to adequately refine waste water before returning it to streams and rivers, and,

Whereas, notwithstanding increased efforts to treat waste water it will not be possible, under existing known treatment methods, to adequately maintain satisfactory quality in many of our streams and rivers unless water flow is augmented;

Therefore, be it resolved, that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners encourages and supports planning to include adequate waters for augmenting the flow of streams.

RESOLUTION NO. 2

COMMENDATION OF U. S. FOREST SERVICE ROAD AND LOGGING PRACTICES

Whereas, the habitat for fish is greatly influenced by road construction and logging operations, and

Whereas, the U. S. Forest Service has been helpful in requiring that consideration for fish habitat be made during logging and road building, and

Whereas, the current economic situation of the lumber industry has caused criticism of the Forest service for its close regulation of logging methods, and

Whereas, the continuation and further refinement of this regulation is essential to the well-being of the fishery resource and the over-all natural resource economy of the nation, and

Whereas, the Forest Service has insisted that fish habitat and recreational values be safeguarded;

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners that the U. S. Forest Service be commended for its progress in this field and be assured of the association's support of its position in this matter.

RESOLUTION NO. 3

FEDERAL FARM PROGRAM

Whereas, practices that would benefit wildlife have been included in the Federal Farm Program, and

Whereas, these permitted practices frequently are disregarded by the state and local A.C.P. committees;

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners requests the Secretary of Agriculture to urge the county A.C.P. committees to give greater recognition to the wildlife features of the farm program.

RESOLUTION NO. 4

CHANNEL STRAIGHTENING

Whereas, in meeting the demands and needs of our ever-increasing human population, the preservation of fisheries, wildlife and recreational areas is becoming increasingly difficult and critical, and

Whereas, vast amounts of public funds are being appropriated to Federal agencies for water developments, including drainage, flood control, domestic and industrial water supplies, navigation, irrigation and hydropower, and

Whereas, the channelization or straightening of streams is detrimental to the conservation of our outdoor recreational areas, and

Whereas, these projects should be evaluated as to their effect upon fisheries, wildlife and outdoor recreation in determining the true cost/benefit ratios;

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners urges that no funds be appropriated by the Congress to any Federal, State and/or local governmental agency for any project which involves channelizing or straightening of streams unless such project is first approved by the State Game and Fish Department.

RESOLUTION NO. 5

AGRICULTURAL DRAINAGE

Whereas, it is impossible to delete from practices eligible for federal cost-sharing any practice which was listed among those eligible in 1957 or

1958 under a provision carried in bills for appropriation funds or Agricultural Stabilization Conservation Committees, and

Whereas, subsidized agricultural drainage is inconsistent with land-use adjustment as provided in bills now before the Congress which recommendations are concurred in by the President of the United States, and

Whereas, cost-sharing for agricultural drainage conflicts with provisions of P. L. 87-383, an Act which authorizes funds for acquiring migratory waterfowl habitat;

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners that language which "prohibits any changes in the Agricultural Conservation Program which will have the effect of restricting eligibility requirements or cost-sharing on practices included in either the 1957 or 1958 programs" be deleted from such appropriation bills present and future.

RESOLUTION NO. 6

S. 1988 - KUCHEL

Whereas, the United States Senate has passed S. 1988 (Kuchel) Tule Lake-Lower Klamath Wildlife Refuge Bill with amendments suggested by the Department of Interior, which resolved the points of view of the Bureau of Reclamation and the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, and

Whereas, this measure is pending before the House of Representatives, and

Whereas, this association, in concert with the Pacific Flyway Council and other state and national conservation organizations, has for many years endorsed such a solution to this serious waterfowl problem,

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners does hereby urge the House of Representatives to act favorably on S. 1988 (Kuchel).

RESOLUTION NO. 7

PURCHASE OF LAND IN FEDERAL LAND AND WATER PROJECTS

Whereas, it is now fully realized that optimum present and future outdoor recreational and fish and wildlife potentials at each Federal Land and Water Project are in proportion to the amount of publicly owned land available for these purposes, and

Whereas, on February 16, 1962, the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of the Army jointly agreed to a land acquisition policy related to Federal project lands, providing for the purchase of adequate peripheral lands in fee,

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners commends the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of the Army for this farsighted and far-reaching policy and urges its immediate and continuing application in the public interest.

RESOLUTION NO. 8

SURPLUS GAME PROBLEMS WITHIN THE NATIONAL PARKS AND MONUMENTS

Whereas, the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners has gone on record in the past to the effect that surpluses of big game occurring within National Parks should be subject to game management controls, consistent with similar controls exercised in non-park areas, and

Whereas, the Secretary of the Interior has recently recognized the serious implications of surplus National Park game animals and has evidenced his concern over this problem by appointing a nation-wide committee of outstanding conservationists to advise him relative to a solution to this problem

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the International Association does hereby commend the Secretary of Interior for his recent actions in appointing said committee, and

Be it further resolved that the International Association does hereby call to the attention of this committee past resolutions on this subject, adopted by this association, and

Be it further resolved that this association calls to the attention of the secretary's committee the following management facts bearing on this subject:

1. That state game departments have the responsibility for management of big game herds within the individual states.
2. That many state game departments as a part of this management responsibility must assume a financial obligation for damages done by big game herds associated with this National Park surplus problem.

And be it further resolved that the states do tender the assistance of their big game technicians to aid the Secretary's Committee in arriving at a final recommendation to this problem.